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Department of Consumer Affairs revokes licenses of Los Angeles-based Private Investigator

SACRAMENTO — The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) has revoked the licenses of Los Angeles-based private investigator Anthony J. Pellicano.

The revocation of Mr. Pellicano's private investigator's license and the license of his agency, Pellicano Investigative Agency, Ltd., was effective Feb. 2, 2004. Mr. Pellicano has been a licensed private investigator in California since 1983.

DCA's Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (BSIS), which regulates private investigators in California, sought the revocations after Mr. Pellicano was convicted in October 2003 in U.S. District Court of felony possession of firearms and plastic explosives. An Accusation was forwarded to the California Attorney General by the Bureau on Dec. 5. Mr. Pellicano was served on Dec. 12.

"This action underscores that the Bureau expects its licensees to conduct themselves lawfully," said Steven Giorgi, BSIS Chief.

Under California law, the Department can seek revocation of a private investigator's license, if he or she has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties for which the license was issued.

Mr. Pellicano had the right to a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge to contest the Bureau's Accusation, but failed to request one. A default judgement was then issued by the Department of Consumer Affairs.

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